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C. D. BRIGHAM, Editor.

M. F. RYAN, Business Manager.

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☞ Communications designed for publication should be addressed to the Editor.

☞ Letters on Business, Subscriptions, &c., address THE COMMERCIAL, Pittsburgh.

The Weekly Commercial, a large sheet, containing all the Current News, Miscellaneous, Literary and Scientific Intelligence, and Valuable Reading for the Family.

☞ TERMS OF THE WEEKLY: Per Year (52 issues), $2 00; in Clubs of Twenty, $1 50; one copy gratis to the getter up of the Club.

☞ Money must always accompany the order, and in no instance can these terms be deviated from.

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VOL. X. PITTSBURGH, TUESDAY MORNING, JANUARY 21, 1873. NO. 113.

FIRST EDITION.

HARRISBURG.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE

NOMINATIONS FOR UNITED STATES SENATOR.

Governor's Salary Bill Signed—Pay of Committee Clerks—Committee on Contested Judgeship.

Inauguration Ceremonies To-day.

Special to the Pittsburg Press.

HARRISBURG, PA., January 20, 1873.

SENATE.

The Senate met at seven o'clock.

Nominations for United States Senator.

On motion of Mr. Rutan, the rules were suspended for the purpose of going into nomination for United States Senator.

Mr. Graham nominated Hon. Simon Cameron.

Mr. Petrikin nominated William A. Wallace.

Mr. Collins nominated Hendrick B. Wright.

Mr. McClure said he was not ready, as the Liberal Republican caucus had not met.

Mr. Humphreys was named teller on behalf of the Senate.

Nomination Confirmed.

General Provost was unanimously confirmed as Major General of the First Division of Pennsylvania Militia.

Bill Signed.

The Governor sent in a message that he had signed the bill for an increase of the Governor's salary.

Pay of Committee Clerks.

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Resolved, That the clerks and other officers employed by any committee or officers of either House shall only receive compensation when the additional labor is great, and if not, the officers shall be paid *pro rata* as such.

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CRIME IN IRELAND.

A LADY AND HER SERVANT BUTCHERED.

Two Women Beat Them to Death.

[Correspondence of the New York World.]

ENNISKILLEN, December 31.—A most diabolical murder has stained the hitherto quiet and orderly character of Holywood, near Belfast. An aged lady named Miss Isabella Ker, and her servant, Jane Tiner, were discovered on Monday morning, the 30th instant, to have been brutally murdered in Miss Ke's house, known as "The Croft," the weapon with which the awful deeds were done being a salamander, used for lighting fires, and which was found lying beside the body of Miss Ker, who was discovered after some time spent in searching, lying in the scullery, with her head and face fearfully demolished. She had been dragged into this apartment after the commission of the awful deed, and placed on a blanket with a green coverlet over her. The maid was first discovered on the first landing, by the milk girl in the morning looking through the window. She had rung the bell for the purpose of leaving the milk, as usual, but getting no response she left the can at the door and proceeded to other customers. On returning she saw the can was still there, and she again rang the bell; then went round to the house to the rear, and on looking through the window saw the maid lying lifeless near the parlor door. She soon reported the circumstance, and the door was opened by the magistrates and police, when the horrifying facts became evident. Miss Ker had the evening before gone to the house of a Unitarian minister, Mr. McAlester, and in conversation with his wife told her that she had found two women in the kitchen with her servants, and had felt the smell of whisky off them. She had told the servant to send them away. Nothing more was seen of Miss Ker alive. Next morning two women were seen to leave the house by the postman, who met them, and one of them stooped down to avoid being seen. Having passed the postman, they took a car, and had themselves driven into Belfast. They had each a small bundle. All these facts have become known, and the police are exerting themselves to discover the guilty parties. The house was altogether ransacked in the night time, and it is even asserted that the murderers must have slept in a bed in the top story of the house till morning. No one can say what was taken by the murderers. A suspicion is also afloat that the two must have been men in female attire; but of course no one can speak with certainty. The maid had always borne a good character, and from the fact of her spending the previous evening with them it must be assumed that she knew them, and took them for what they appeared—females. The mistress is known to have been the first victim, and last the maid should disclose the circumstances afterwards it is thought the murderers must have deemed it necessary to secure the silence of the one as well as the other. They have been traced to Smithfield, in Belfast, but here the trail is lost for the present, although one arrest—that of a servant girl—has been made on suspicion.

OHIO NEWS.

A Crestline man has received a patent on a "machine for handling corpses." In view of the fact that there are now so many devices in use for *making* corpses, it is safe to predict a fortune for the inventor.

A Philadelphia manufacturing company intend to locate at Lebanon, if capitalists will take enough stock to induce them to come.

The Leffel Turbine Wheel Works, of Springfield, have been enlarged.

Mrs. Susanna Porter, wife of Erben G. Porter, now awaiting trial for the murder of his two children, has commenced suits in Court, under the Adair Liquor law, against James McNulty and Edward Collins, of Leetonia, for furnishing liquor to her husband, laying damages in the sum of $5,000, in each case.

New Lexington boasts of a man who commenced operations there a few years ago with a cash capital of $1 75, and is now owner of 50,000 acres of the best land in Perry county, worth at least $100 per acre.

Judge Foote, of the Cuyahoga Common Pleas, in a recent case under the Adair Liquor law, decided that the intoxicating liquors sold must be other than ale, beer, cider or wine made of the pure juices of the grape, cultivated in the State of Ohio. The ground on which the decision was based this distinction is the fact that, under the laws of Ohio, the sale of the beverages named is not prohibited, and therefore is lawful, and the sale being a lawful transaction, the seller is not liable for damages arising therefrom. The question thus raised is an important one, since, if Judge Foote's opinion is sustained, it will be requisite in each case to prove what particular liquor is sold.

The Lutheran Synod of Ohio and other States has resolved to remove its "Capital University" from Columbus, and a special Synod is called to meet in Columbus, February 19th, [illegible]

Salem has eleven churches—one for every 339 inhabitants; fifteen school-rooms, and not a single drinking saloon in the place.

Epizooty Relieves.

[From the New York World, 19th.]

The late continued bad weather has developed considerable sickness among the horses of this city, and the assistance of the officers from the Office for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals are almost hourly required to kill some horse that has been seized with the disease. The principal sufferers appear to be draw and truck horses who have considerable heavy work to do, and at the same time are much exposed to the weather, few cases having as yet appeared in the several car or stage stables. A singular feature of the disease is that horses apparently in good health have dropped down while in harness, and died on by apoplexy. To this disease veterinary surgeons have applied the term cerebro-spinal meningitis. The suddenness and fatality of the attacks, and the accompanying paralysis, are the features that warrant this diagnosis, and as that disease has invariably been fatal, very little study has been given to this new phase of it. Inquiry by Mr. Bergh's officers has invariably shown that the horses attacked by this disease had very severe attacks of the first disease, and that they were worked long before they were entirely well of the same. Present reports show that from seven to ten a day are now dying of this disease.

Discriminations in Rates of Freight.

Among other important subjects now before the Missouri Legislature, is that of how best to prevent unjust discriminations and extortions in the rates to be charged by railways in the State for the transportation of freights. A bill for this purpose has been framed which prohibits railroads to charge a greater rate for freights for any distance than is charged on the same class of freights for a greater distance; it prohibits them to charge a higher rate for freight over one portion of the road than over another. It also directs that, in consulting the public, the railroads shall cheapen their way rates to the present minimum through rates, instead of increasing the latter to the standard of the former. The penalty for a violation of the act is any sum less than $1,000, together with costs and reasonable attorney's fee. Any *willful* violation of the act is to be taken and treated as a forfeiture of its charter by the offending railroad company.

A BILL has been introduced in the Missouri Legislature, the object of which is to break up that great and growing evil, the carrying of concealed weapons. It makes it a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not less than twenty dollars, nor more than one hundred dollars, or imprisonment in the county jail not less than five nor more than twenty days, for any person to go into a church or religious assembly, school room, educational meeting, ball, party or social gathering, to any election precinct on election day, court room during session of court, or any other public assembly, armed with a deadly weapon. Such a law as this should be enacted in every State and rigidly enforced. It would materially decrease the danger of homicides, a great majority of which grow out of the vicious practice of bearing arms.

WHILE Matilda Heron was on her way to the East from San Francisco, the train on which she was traveling was boarded at Sacramento by a reporter, who catechised her upon all sorts of subjects. As to the object of her journey, she was going to New York to do a service for a friend, and this is the way she stated that service, according to the reporter: "A woman died leaving a good-sized fortune to a real daughter. This daughter our family brought up; mother and daughter never knew each other, but the lady adopted another child; both grew to womanhood; the adopted child married—ran away with a man whom the lady did not like, so she cut her off in her will for the real daughter. I am to prove the identity of that child."

FROM the 23d of September to the 31st of December, 1872, there were shipped eastward from Dodge City Station, on the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway, 43,029 buffalo hides, and 1,436,290 pounds of buffalo meat. This result of three months' work of those who devote their time to the destruction of the buffalo foreshadows the early extinction of this species of game. The buffaloes that are killed in summer or in early autumn in wanton cruelty, miscalled sport, and for food for the frontier residents, are not taken into the above account. It is estimated that the entire number killed around the station of Fort Dodge during 1872 was fully 100,000.

SECOND EDITION.

WASHINGTON.

The Credit Mobilier Monotony.

Revival of American Commerce.

REMITTING TAXES ON SPIRITS.

Distribution of Geneva Award.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, January 20, 1873.

Credit Mobilier—Mr. Brooks Again.

Judge Poland to-day ventilated all the features of the James Brooks case for the fifth time in the Credit Mobilier Committee. The general opinion is that this repeated overhauling of Brooks is becoming rather monotonous. There is almost universal desire to have the committee begin the cross-examination of Mr. Ames, who is now understood to have recaptured his memory, and is further fortified by his books and papers. Several members, whose statements before the committee are still questioned, are desirous that Mr. Ames shall be thoroughly cross-examined, so that the suspiciousness and insinuations current here may be wholly swept away. The committee and spectators were greatly amused today at the expense of John B. Alley, who asked permission to question Sidney Dillon, and, as was immediately evident, with the intention of having him say that he (Alley) did not have much to do with managing the affairs of the Credit Mobilier. His witness, however, disappointed him, for Mr. Dillon answered promptly that he was under the impression that Mr. Alley managed about as much as any of them.

The Wilson Committee is sitting day and night. A large invoice of books of the Union Pacific Road arrived to-day from Boston, in charge of Treasurer Rollens, and more are expected.

Revival of American Commerce.

Shellabarger's bill for the revival of American commerce comes up in the House by assignment to-morrow, and will probably occupy two or three days. Its leading features are the establishment of a commission, consisting of five cabinet officers, for the collection and distribution of statistics of commerce, and the payment of bounties at a specified rate per ton on one hundred thousand tons of shipping to be annually for five years. The bill is made up with that submitted by Secretary Boutwell last session as a basis, and during its several stages of consideration in committee has absorbed several other schemes for the same general purpose. Mr. Shellabarger has prepared a report in favor of the measure, and he will deliver to-morrow on the bill, and it is expected that Dawes and Garfield, with Potter and one or two other prominent Democrats, will sustain it.

Remitting Taxes on Spirits.

The Committee of Ways and Means will soon report a bill remitting taxes on spirits withdrawn from bond for use in preserving specimens in natural history and scientific collections. The bill will be drawn to conform to views of Prof. Agassiz, who will receive the most benefit by its passage. It will entrust to the Secretary of the Treasury authority to prescribe the necessary regulations.

Distribution of the Geneva Award.

Judge Poland's bill for the distribution of the Geneva award is his own, and proposes the disposition of the money to go in the Dartmouth suit in some United States Circuit Court, to be designated by the Attorney-General. The bill contemplates a suit in equity, brought by the United States, for the recovery of the entire amount of all claimants, whether citizens or insurance companies, to be made defendants, and awarded their just proportion of the total amount recovered.

To-morrow the House Judiciary Committee expect to complete the consideration of General Butler's Alabama bill, and to return it to the House with a long accompanying report.

Voting When Personally Interested.

General Hawley's prompt and ready reference this afternoon to the rules of the House which forbid members voting on matters in which they are personally interested, nearly gained a victory for public economy, and saved the body from a hasty reversal of their action last week. Four members, Meyers, Piatt, Critchfield, Coffroth, earlier in the day went to the Clerk's desk and withdrew their votes, and had one other interested member to follow their example before the roll-call could have given the casting vote and defeated the resolution. Some of the members now say that they will cite Hawley's rule on their associates whenever questions affecting national banks, railroad or steamship companies are before the House.

Undue Haste.

A good illustration of celerity in political affairs occurred to-day. An important clerk in the Portland Custom House died last night, and this afternoon Senator Cragin received a dispatch from a prominent citizen of New Hampshire politician to delay the appointment to fill the vacancy until he heard from him.

Wisconsin Senatorial Election.

The Wisconsin Senatorial election occurs to-morrow. Senator Howe has received a dispatch stating that five Democratic members of the Legislature would vote for him, and he is certain of the unanimous vote of the Republicans, no caucus in opposition having been held.

The New Arkansas Senator.

Dorsey, the new Senator elect in Arkansas, is a native of Vermont, and President of the Arkansas Central Railroad.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 20, 1873.

THE CASE OF SENATOR CALDWELL.

The Committee on Privileges and Elections, investigating the case of Senator Caldwell, met at one o'clock, and discussed the propriety of forcing the production of a private letter between Governor Carney and ex-Congressman Clarke. Senator Trumbull said that the case of Senator Caldwell was being investigated, and not the witnesses Carney and Clarke. He therefore was opposed to forcing the production of private letters between them. Senator Anthony concurred, but after some discussion the room was cleared to consider the matter secretly. The room was re-opened, the committee having decided that the letter may be produced. It detailed the corrupt bargains in the Caldwell election, and closed with an expression that investigation should be made. The defense attempted to show the difference between the statements in Carney's letter and his sworn statements, but failed. A long and tedious cross-examination, however, was had in confirmatory of the testimony already disclosed, that a great deal of money changed hands at the consummation of the bargain.

MAJORITY AND MINORITY REPORTS ON THE BOSTON RELIEF BILL.

The majority of the Senate Committee on Judiciary, in reporting adversely on the House bill for the relief of sufferers by the Boston fire, submit a long argument to show that in the express constitutional provisions securing to all States equal privileges and advantages in commerce and manufactures, Congress has no power to pass the bill. In reply to the argument that precedents support this bill, it is answered that the Constitution is an abiding command, and that nineteen violations of it will not justify the twentieth, and that, moreover, such bills of this character as have been passed heretofore were not seriously opposed or fully considered with regard to constitutional questions. The Portland relief bill was passed without debate, and seemingly without consideration. The Chicago relief bill was reported by the Senate Committee on Finance, but was not considered by the Judiciary Committee, and it is said to fair to be presume that the sympathy of Senators for sufferers in that unparalleled calamity contributed much to the passage of the bill than the deliberate judgment of the Senate upon the constitutional question.

The committee continue as follows: "The importance of the subject, and the fact that a calamity by fire cannot be distinguished from one produced by flood, by cyclone, earthquake or any other visitation outside of the ordinary course of things, and the fact that if Congress attempt to insure against one it must against all; not only justifies but calls for a reconsideration of the subject and makes it necessary to determine the principles to be applied in all cases. In each of all these contingencies, Congress shall pass a bill, it is not perceived by your committee upon what ground Congress could refuse relief to individual sufferers. How many buildings must be destroyed to justify the interference of Congress? Must there be a thousand, or five hundred, or one hundred, or fifty, or five? Where is the line to be drawn? Must not Congress become the great almonor of the nation, a great insurance company for forty millions of people?"

After arguing that this bill cannot be regarded as a drawback of duties, for the reasons that the bill relates merely to articles that be used in this country, and that drawbacks, like duties, must be uniform throughout the country, the committee continue: "If it be said that the bill is in effect a mere appropriation of money out of the Treasury, that Congress has the power of appropriation, limited only by the fact that the appropriation must be made to pay its debts and provide for the common defense and the general welfare of the United States, the answer is plain. The bill does not provide for paying any debt or for anything necessary to the common welfare and defense, nor is it an appropriation for the general welfare. It is essentially a local measure."

They quote from Story's Commentaries on the Constitution to show that a power to lay taxes for common defense and general welfare is not in the common sense a general power, but limited to those objects, and conclude by saying: "It requires no argument to show that the power of appropriation is not broader than that of taxation, and therefore as Congress cannot levy taxes for a merely local purpose, as contradistinguished from a national one, it cannot appropriate money for such local purpose."

The minority of the committee, consisting of Senators Edmunds and Wright, in the course of their dissenting report, say: "If it be the judgment of Congress that the general welfare will be promoted by the free importation of goods to be used for a particular purpose in a particular place, not because it is a particular place or in a particular State, but because the objects to which they are to be devoted happens by accident to be one to be effectuated in some one State or place, there can be said to be no preference to that State or place as such, although the same goods and for the same purpose could not be used on that occasion in any other State or place. Its real spirit and essence in such a case is not to interfere with uniformity or create a preference between States or parts, but it is to accomplish the general welfare by aiding a particular object or a special enterprise which must of necessity be located somewhere and not everywhere in the country. While, as we have seen, therefore, such a law does not violate the letter of the Constitution, it is equally clear that it does not violate its spirit, which, as we have seen, was to prevent the oppression of a particular State for the benefit of others, and not to prevent Congress, when general welfare required it, from allowing all citizens of the country to bring in goods in aid of some special object which happened to be attainable by their use in a particular place."

The minority cite many acts of Congress relating to import duties in conformity with the foregoing construction of the Constitution, the essential idea being that the test of uniformity is answered by application of the rule to a particular thing upon which the duty or impost is laid in a given case named in the law, without looking to the fact that its ultimate use or destination may happen to be one which indirectly or incidentally works a benefit to a particular town, or particular State. The minority say the report of the majority treats the bill in question as if it were a bill declaring that all goods used in Boston should have a drawback; which is not the case, and therefore the argument brought against such a proposition has no application to the present bill.

LOUISIANA POLITICAL DIFFICULTY.

The House Committee on Judiciary will proceed to the consideration of the Louisiana difficulty in a day or two. The credentials of Gen. McMillen, elected Senator for the short term by the fusion Legislature, and of John Ray, elected by the Pinchback Legislature, will be referred to the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections, and the determination of their rival claims will involve an examination into the whole subject.

Battle with the Modoc Indians—The Troops Repulsed—Reinforcements Demanded.

SAN FRANCISCO, January 20.—A dispatch from Yerka to-day states that a messenger just arrived at that place from the headquarters of General Wheaton, commanding the troops in the action against the Modocs. He says that a severe battle was fought last Friday, the troops under command of General Wheaton were two hundred and fifty regulars, two companies of Oregon volunteers, twenty-five California riflemen, commanded by Captain Fairchild, and a few Klamath Indians, altogether about four hundred men. The battle took place near the eastern shore of the Tulo lake. On Thursday Captain Bernard moved with the north end of the lake to the west side, and to the east Captain Jackson. In this position he was to advance against the Modocs in the front, and Gen. Wheaton from the south west, the forces of the latter to be under cover of the fire of the howitzer. On Thursday night a very dense fog overspread the country; they couldn't see forty yards. The two forces were then about twelve miles apart, though to communicate with each other it was necessary to go a much greater distance. On Friday morning Captain Bernard opened battle against Captain Jack, who had about two hundred warriors concealed among the rocks along the line, two miles in length. Wheaton heard the firing and had no alternative but to move to the aid of Captain Bernard with the fire of the howitzer. The troops fought the unseen foe from eight o'clock in the morning until dark under a terrible fire, during which scarcely one Indian was seen. The loss to the troops was forty killed and wounded. Loss to the Modocs unknown. The troops were finally obliged to retreat to their camps, having been driven from the field of the battle and suffered terribly. All the cavalry fought on foot. Among the killed are Frank Trimble, J. W. Boggs, W. W. Roberts, mortal wounded; Captain Trimble, also fatally, perhaps, seriously, and Lieut. Kyle slightly wounded. A movement was called for a forced reconnoissance of Captain J

The Daily Commercial.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 21, 1873.

THE few vacant seats in the Senate of the Forty-third Congress are being rapidly filled. Several elections—among them the election of a successor to Senator CAMERON—take place today; the result, in most cases, having already been virtually determined by caucus nominations.

WHOSO SUFFERS himself to be bribed is to the full as culpable and inexcusable as the briber. Hence the admission, wrung by the CALDWELL investigating committee from ex-Governor CARNEY, of Kansas, that he sold out his Senatorial candidature to that Senator for the sum of fifteen thousand dollars, is quite as disgraceful to himself as to the man by whom his withdrawal was purchased. We do not know whether the law can reach him, but public opinion certainly can—as most assuredly it will.

AND now dreamy and exclusive China succumbs to the practical, scientific spirit of the utilitarian West. The latest intelligence from that country states that permission has recently been obtained to construct a railroad one hundred miles in length in the Chinese Empire, and that agents have already been dispatched to Europe to buy the necessary material, rolling stock, etc. After the first step had been taken the rest is comparatively easy. A breach having thus been effected, the entire structure of Chinese dissociability will in due course topple to its fall.

AFTER having fully *considered* the whole subject, the Canadian *Board* of Trade, which met a few days ago, passed a resolution declaring a *revision* of the sources of the revenue of *the Dominion* to be necessary, and recommending a protective policy to the consideration of the Government and the Legislature. A few years ago the Board was strongly free trade. The radical change of opinion which has since taken place among its members concerning the fiscal policy most proper for the country to pursue is respectfully commended to the consideration of free traders on this side of the border.

THE United States Prison Reform Congress meets at Baltimore to-day. The principal feature of the Convention will be the presentation of a body of special reports on the preventive, reformatory and penal institutions and labors of the different States. A number of important papers by eminent European philanthropists will also be read. It is expected that the deliberations of the Convention will result in establishing a general basis of agreement for future operations with regard to the subjects of prison discipline and reform. The immense practical importance of the subject will strike every observer at a glance.

THE House Committee on Elections have done a good thing in recommending the adoption of a resolution declaring that neither BOWEN nor DE LARGE—contesting claimants for seats in Congress from South Carolia—is entitled to admission. The resolution will, in all probability, be passed. The committee say it is impossible, on account of the frauds and irregularities committed on both sides, to determine which had the majority of the legal votes cast—in other words, they are at a loss to tell which of the two stuffed the largest number of ballot boxes. In bowing BOWEN across the threshhold, and turning DE LARGE at large, the House of Representatives will perform an act that will faithfully reflect the sentiment and wishes of nearly the whole country.

ELSEWHERE in this paper will be found a report of the proceedings had in this city yesterday at a *meeting of our leading river men, concerning the necessity of establishing* a proper system of lights and buoys at dangerous points on our Western rivers. The bill now pending in Congress to secure these indispensable aids to safe navigation is, in view of the magnitude of the commerce of these rivers, a measure of great and pressing importance. Indeed, Congress could do nothing that would better entitle it to the thanks of the whole country than by hastening the completion of all the projected improvements which have for their object the furnishing of safe and uninterrupted water carriage on the Ohio and Mississippi and their navigable tributaries.

THE inauguration of General HARTRANFT as Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, takes place to-day. He assumes the Executive office under somewhat peculiar circumstances. If, on the one hand, there is hardly a precedent for the malignity with which, during the campaign, he was assailed by the Democratic party, aided and abetted by a few apostate Republicans, yet, on the other, the superb vindication of his character which him by the people, who rallied around him like a wall of fire, are almost without a parallel in the history of modern politics. He enters upon office backed by the best elements and forces of the Commonwealth, and while some natural anxiety is felt that his administration may be such as to completely put to shame the wanton malicioussness and mendacity with which he has been hounded, there no grounds for apprehension that this will not be the case. He brings to his new position the utmost respect and confidence of a vast majority of the people of the State. It is hoped and believed he will so administer his high trust, that at the close of his official term he may be even more fully covered than now with tokens of the public approval.

ACCORDING to a cable dispatch from Paris, of the 16th instant, the Dramatic Censors have submitted to the Military Governor of Paris a play now being rehearsed at one of the Parisian theaters, because of its outrageous satire upon American manners. No doubt the play referred to is M. VICTORIEN SARDOU'S *L'Oncle Sam*, of which the *Figaro* newspaper lately gave an "anticipated analysis" from which was derived the slight account of the play contained in the COMMERCIAL a few days ago. As we then stated, the *Figaro* thought it likely that Mr. WASHBURNE would interfere to arrest the representations of a comedy so injurious and offensive to his compatriots. The first public representation is to take place on the February, and the play is at present known only through the *Figaro's* analysis and the rehearsal. Is it possible that the American Minister has really instigated the act of the Censors in appealing to the Governor of Paris to prohibit the representation? In the cable dispatch the *Memorial Diplomatique* is mentioned as authority for its statement, which may or may not imply ambassadorial interference in this affair. That the action of the water it certainly appears improbable that Mr. WASHBURNE has concerned himself with such a matter, while it is certainly quite credible that, in the present relations of political parties, and under the present government of France, M. THIERS and other statesmen may deem it inexpedient and generally impolitic to permit republican manners to be made the subject of ridicule.

DURING the present Congress eight bills have been introduced, each of them providing for a refunding of the cotton taxes. The matter will to-day come up for consideration before the Committee of Ways and Means, where, it is to be hoped, the job may be finally squelched. It has been proved beyond question that the claims for repayment have been bought up at an enormous discount for purposes of speculation, and that they are carried about in the pockets of a ring from whom of course the pressure in favor of the scheme primarily emanates. It is claimed that the tax was unconstitutional. The Supreme Court, not Congress, is the proper tribunal to decide this point. That Court, however, has already, by a divided bench, affirmed the constitutionality of the imposition. One thing is quite clear: that if it is impossible for the money to be so distributed as to repay those on whom the tax in reality fell. These were the consumers; not the producer, not the broker, not the manufacturer—each of whom was reimbursed either by the enhanced cost of the raw material or by the increased price of the fabric manufactured from it. The argument that the tax ought to be repaid to "conciliate" the people of the cotton-growing States, is as pernicious as it is foolish; and, should it prevail, probably the next thing the country would be asked to do by way of "reconciliation," would be to pay the slave owners the cash value of their emancipated chattels. The scheme had its inspiration and origin in the lobby, and should be as vigorously opposed as, unquestionably, it will be unscrupulously pushed.

UTTER FAILURE appears to have followed the attempt of the DUC DE GRAMMONT and the adherents of the late ex-Emperor to disturb the cordial understanding between Germany and Austria by so-called revelations concerning the Austrian government's sympathy with France at the beginning of the late war. In these revelations Austria is represented as eager to avenge Sadowa, and as ready to unite with France for the purpose as soon as an opportunity might offer to strike an effective blow. German organs, in the first place, regard all statements on the subject with scepticism as coming from parties whose interests may, and probably do, so color words and facts as to render them deceptive, and in the second place, even admitting that *French* statements to be true, they remark that Austrian statesmen might well enough be hostile to Germany at that time and yet at present be her friend and regard her alliance as strength and safety. Self-interest is after all, they say, the only bond of solid and trustworthy relations between nations, and where it clearly exists, actual friendship between nations cannot be in the least weakened by statements which prove that two or three years ago either of the parties viewed differently its position toward the other. Evidently, however, the revelations to which we refer are intended not merely to embroil Austria and Germany, but to show that in going to war with the latter power, France was not so reckless and rash as has been supposed; in fact, that she had good reason to count upon the alliance of Austria and upon Austrian influence with the South German States in causing them to take part in the war against Prussia and the North. And in this object the publications in question cannot be said to have failed so utterly as in the other. It is made out that NAPOLEON had some little, though not sufficient reason to expect the aid which failed him so miserably.

PRISON LABOR AND THE MECHANICS.

The subject of prison labor, while theoretically the easiest, is practically one of the most embarrassing subjects in penology or the science which treats of public punishments as they respect the public and *the* sufferer. On the one hand, it is *easy* to deal with the subject theoretically *because* there is little if any difference *of opinion* concerning the principles which *should* obtain in a truly humane and truly Christian Penetrated *with the spirit* of the age, thoughtful people are for the most part quite agreed in regarding the reform of the criminal as one important object to be aimed at in his punishment, and they are equally agreed in regarding constant and regular occupation as an essential agency in a prisoner's moral education. When JOHN HOWARD said: "Make men diligent and they will be honest,"—he spoke to a generation of whom comparatively few either understood or cared for the application of the rule to men and women already notoriously dishonest. In the light of a brighter day, and of countless facts furnished by the history of reformatory institutions, it is seen that benevolence toward the fallen, and intelligent regard for the public welfare, equally require that prisoners shall be steadily employed in some form of productive industry. The laborious habits thus acquired produce the most favorable effect upon their characters and help to render them amenable to other good influences; self-respect is developed and cherished with the consciousness of being useful, and the trades to which they serve an apprenticeship in confinement, are found to be a great safeguard against their relapse into crime on their discharge. These statements are so completely sustained by the experience and testimony of Superintendents of penitentiaries and others interested in the subject, that at present no one is inclined to dispute their truth. To the general public the beneficial results are still more obvious and unquestionable. By the operation of the system, while criminals are taken care of, and a large proportion of them reformed, they are made wholly or in part to pay the expenses of their own maintenance—a fact of immense significance to the heavily taxed people of the Commonwealth.

It is, however, objected to the employment of prisoners in the mechanic arts, that their labor interferes with the legitimate profits of honest men devoted to the same pursuits. And this is the embarrassing side of the subject to which we have already referred. There can, however, be no doubt that much of the difficulty has resulted from misapprehension on the one hand and from a wrong use of the prisoners on the other. Unquestionably between the interest of the honest mechanic and the interest of the criminal choice is easy. Common fairness and common decency require that, if the two interests can not be reconciled with each other, the former is entitled to preference. But when prisoners' labor is properly applied, there is no such conflict as the one assumed to exist. What is called the contract system in New York, and perhaps some other States, under which prisoners were hired out at trifling wages to speculators who could afford to sell their products in the market at rates ruinous to the honest producer, was a system of mere outrage and oppression, and the mechanics rightly enough made it the subject of bitter complaints and protests. But nothing is more certain than that the products of prison labor fairly remunerated are not sufficient in any one branch to glut the general markets of the country. This is evident from the fact that not more than about twenty thousand persons, including men, women and children confined in the penal and reformatory institutions of the country, are engaged in productive labor, in a working population of considerably more than twenty millions. This truth was established to the entire satisfaction of the New York mechanics by the State Commission some time ago appointed for the examination of the subject. Hence there is no economical reason for the opposition of mechanics in general to the employment of prisoners in their trades, and the members of any single trade would have some ground for complaint only if it alone were selected for criminal occupation. Even in the latter case, the disturbance in the equilibrium of prices would be but a trifle more than general. Still the evil might be sufficient to justify the demand of certain mechanics that the trades pursued in prisons should be multiplied, and the prison industry thus diffused among different crafts—a change which has to a considerable extent been already made.

In view of these facts and truths it is impossible to regard with much deference the efforts which the coopers of Pittsburgh and Allegheny are reported as putting forth to stop the making of barrels at the Penitentiary workhouse. Common humanity requires that the prisoners there shall have steady and regular employment, and here, as in most other cases, true humanity and the interests of society point in the same direction. And in relation to the public good, though not the most important, it is no trifling consideration that, if unprovided with work, the prisoners at the workhouse must be maintained in idleness at the expense of the tax-payers. Barrel making affords suitable employment for unskilled laborers, and is a trade which may be learned by them thoroughly during their confinement. They are thus qualified with a trade in which they are certain of employment on their release, and are thus protected from the temptations of enforced idleness. Again, by the introduction of machinery into the workhouse in the manufacture of barrels a better article is produced than can be made by hand, and this result is of direct benefit to the public. The fact implies one of those advances in the industrial arts against which it is idle to protest, and with which legislation may not interfere without self-stultification and public reprobation. Instead of being sold at lower rates than barrels made in the old-fashioned way, the Claremont barrels are sold on their merits, and actually command the highest prices that are paid for articles of the kind. Finally, the manufacture of barrels at the workhouse will not interfere with the coopers of Western Pennsylvania, as their combined product is insufficient to supply the demand. During the year 1871 no less than four hundred thousand barrels were brought to this county from the State of Indiana. And in this fact we probably have a hint which may point to the real source of the movement against the workhouse manufactory.

Governor HARTRANFT will not interfere with the coopers of Western Pennsylvania, as their combined product is insufficient to supply the demand. During the year 1871 no less than four hundred thousand barrels were brought to this county from the State of Indiana. And in this fact we probably have a hint which may point to the real source of the movement against the workhouse manufactory.

Originated in the State and with men who could receive only advantage and no loss from a legislative act which condemned our workhouse inmates to a life of idleness at the cost of the citizens of Allegheny county.

MR. SHERMAN'S BILL.

The bill of Mr. SHERMAN to provide for a resumption of specie payments and a remedy for our financial troubles, is commended to general attention as a very important bill. It is not dangerous as inflationist measures are, and especially upon brokers, who will not, pass in the shape this presented; but there are unmistakable proofs that the general plan it involves comes very near to the conclusions which most thinking men have arrived at.

It is an experiment; but it seems necessary to venture on some experiment in order to meet the present financial clamor for, not merely more currency, but for the adoption of some system which will give elasticity to the supply of it, so that it may contract or expand according to public necessity.

The bill will lead to a resumption of specie payments is questionable. If the National banks are allowed to issue money, *if certain*, with power to redeem their notes either in coin or legal tender, can the government redeem its legal tender notes without a supply of coin from some source as yet hidden from view? Will not the first effect of the experiment be to fund the legal tenders, and to supply their place with National Bank notes, redeemable, not in coin, but in the legal tenders they will have supplanted? True, the government is authorized to reissue its legal tenders; but will it reissue them only to have them immediately presented to be again funded or redeemed in coin?

We do not ask these questions captiously, but as suggestions. The subject involves the entire business interests of the country, and demands to be looked at in all its aspects. What the country wants, now, is to try to find some way out of its present difficulties, and the only thing the country can do is to look at the whole question carefully and thoroughly, try the first plan that seems practicable, and keep on trying until it succeeds. We cannot, as a people, go on with the present plan. The monetary condition of the nation is its reproach as well as its perplexity. The business men cannot be held much longer hanging by the eyelids. They can now neither go on nor stand still without injury to themselves. This plan of Mr. SHERMAN'S seems to meet the wishes and views of most of those who are painfully waiting for a change; and, therefore, we say, try it, if nothing better offers, and so bring to a practical test the several financial theories which are involved, wholly or partially, in its provisions.

We have great confidence in Mr. SHERMAN'S financial judgment. He is a clear-headed, far-sighted man; not wedded to theories or hobbies, but ready to adapt his views to the prevalent judgment of the country, and able to realize what that judgment is. The bill he has presented is a modification of Mr. BUCKINGHAM'S and embodies the conclusions of the majority of the Finance Committee of the Senate, as well as of the leading financial minds of the country. We know that Congress will discuss it in the *right* spirit, and we commend it to the careful consideration of our readers. There is *not* much time left to act on it; but *there* is enough to act on it wisely; and to *act* on it promptly seems to be alike the *dictate* of prudence and necessity.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

The principal medical office of the United States Marine Hospital service, strongly condemns the course hitherto pursued in this country and in Europe of building hospitals of stone and iron with a view to their durability, on the ground that hospital buildings become poisoned after several years' use and cause unfavorable results in the treatment of diseases and injuries.

The Legislature of Virginia proposes that the State should go into the insurance business, and become the insurer of the property of its citizens.

An immense Catholic emigration from Germany is said to be impending, in consequence of the difficulties between the Imperial government and the dignitaries of the Roman church. The statement seems to be that the young Catholics will come to America.

A proposition is on foot to modify the English grammer so as to discard all irregular verbs and to secure uniformity in the formation of plurals and to establish a phonetic method of spelling in place of our present arbitrary and fantastic system.

The Maine Commissioners of Fisheries, has been engaged during the past season in collecting salmon eggs for the Fishery Commissioners of the United States, and of Maine, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut. The result of the season's operations is more than a million and a half of salmon eggs, all in good condition and rapidly developing.

The New York Board of Public Instruction has done a most important public service in requiring that all persons having charge of steam heating apparatus in public schools shall undergo an examination, and it found competent be furnished with certificates, without which none are to be employed in that capacity.

A Georgia Judge married a runaway couple from Alabama the other day, and at the conclusion of the ceremony the groom whispered: "Judge, how much do I owe you? I haven't much money, and am far from home."

Co-operation is making rapid progress in England. Its most recent application has been to farming. Conservatives and Radicals have joined hands in forwarding the work of co-operative tillage, which is enlisting the attention of the best and wealthiest men of the realm.

The Virginia Legislature has passed an act making it a misdemeanor, punishable by fine and imprisonment, to pay, or be paid, for procuring the passage or defeat of a bill before the Legislature. This example might be copied with advantage in most other States.

The New York Museum of Art has just secured a large and curious collection of antiquities, illustrating the history, religion and customs of the Island of Cyprus. The collection embraces no less than 10,000 pieces, which were discovered in temples and tombs and which date back at least 1,200 years before the Christian Era.

What a knack royalism has at making itself ridiculous! At Chiselhurst, the "Prince Imperial," although he is not a Prince and not Imperial, is now addressed by all the flunkeys as "Sire!"

Some old army buttons, used as play-things by a baby in Iowa, proved to be hollow, with a five dollar greenback folded in each. Now, how many old army buttons will go unopened.

It is stated that a general reduction of telegraph rates will be inaugurated shortly by all the companies.

A Viennese professor is reported to have microscopically detected epithelial cells and pus globules adhering to the bodies of flies which had lit on small-pox patients, thus justifying the belief that these insects may convey infection.

The value of the manufacturing products of the State of New Hampshireten years ago was $52,000,000, in 1870 $75,000,000. How do the free traders account for this?

An infant's dress with a history has just been received at the relief bureau in Boston. Mrs. Henry Ward Beecher sent it eighteen years ago to a lady who had just lost all by fire, and this lady sent it, four years ago, to a daughter, who had met with a similar loss, and, later still, fifteen months ago, it was sent to the Chicago sufferers.

In some of the counties of Iowa, where the local authorities, to encourage the planting of forest trees, agreed to exempt a certain number of land for each acre set with trees, the encouragement was so stimulating that now not a acre of land in these counties is subject to tax, enough trees having been set to exempt it all.

PERSONAL.

President Grant, through General Gorham, United States Minister to the Hague, has presented to Mr. U. O. Wickers, Captain of the Royal Navy of the Netherlands and Inspector of the Corps of Pilots, a gold medal with watch and chain in recognition of his valuable services to distressed American seamen in December, 1872.

The latest advices from Bishop McIlvaine, of Ohio, who is well known in Pittsburgh, were dated to December 17, when he left Rome for Nice, at Brighton, England, where the weather, he says, is all that an American would deem annoying, but the dampness and for the Bishop thrives on, and he speaks more cheeringly of his health.

President Grant has signified his just appreciation of the experience and services of Dr. William Elder, of Philadelphia, by calling him to an important position in the Treasury Department. Nothing need be said of the Doctor's rare capacities as a speaker and writer on financial subjects and especially upon finance and political economy. An early, and always an advanced Republican, he was removed from a prominent governmental position by Andrew Johnson for his independence, and now goes back to resume a connection which cannot fail to be honorable to himself and profitable to the administration.

Another centennial birthday is approaching the four hundredth anniversary of old Nicholas Copernicus. It comes on the 19th of February and is to be celebrated with imposing ceremonies at Warsaw. He was the man who first set the planets circulating about the sun, and certainly deserves to have his birthday celebrated.

Seventy-five members of the Ecumenical Council have died since it was opened in Rome, in December, 1869.

Mr. Smith, of Otterville, Mo., is a nice gentleman to have around in case of sickness in the family. He attacked a young man and knocked him down with a shovel. When told that he had killed him, he remarked "he didn't care a d—n if he had," and believed he would set him up in a chair and see how he looked. The young man died the next day, and after accomplishing which he gave him two more taps with the shovel over the head, again pulling him on the floor. New York needs that man.

The thirty Chinese boys who were brought to this country last summer to receive an English education, and who were at first scattered in different towns through Connecticut and Massachusetts, have all been concentrated at Hartford, where they may be more under Chinese tutor, and thus pursue the studies of their own country as well as of this. This is in accordance with orders received from the home government.

A very notable man in his time was Bernard Rogan, who recently died in Sumner county, Tennessee, lacking but a year of being a century old. He was a native of Ireland, belonged to the patriot pikemen of '98, immigrated to this country a few years after, and in upper Louisiana (now the State of Missouri) held the position of "alcalde" for some years under both the Spanish and French reigns. He served also in the war of 1812, under Major Nathan Boone, son of the celebrated Daniel Boone, and took up his residence in Sumner county in 1820, where he continued to reside to the day of his death.

SEVERAL months ago certain parties in Boston attempted to defraud the government by sending in a piece of a United States bond that had been rescued in some unauthorized way from the government. An attempt was made to get payment for it under the ruling of the Department allowing payment for mutilated notes upon showing, by affidavits or other proof, loss of note. In this case sworn affidavits were produced to make such a showing, but the balance of the note was found on file in the Department. The Treasury Department is now engaged in getting the evidence for the prosecution of the swindlers. It is the first case of the kind before the courts, and some nice questions of law are expected to arise.

SPECIE PAYMENTS.

Speech of Hon. John Sherman in the Senate of the United States, January 16th, 1873.

A Bill Providing for Resumption of the Specie Basis on January 1, 1874.

In the Senate of the United States, on the 16th inst., Mr. Sherman called up Mr. Buckingham's bill providing for a return to specie payments and addressed the Senate upon it. He showed, by reference to the history of our existing currency, that the public faith was pledged to resume specie payment, and argued that the time for resumption had almost come. Passing, then, to the question of policy, he said: I have presented the argument of public faith in the foreground, for it is the first to be considered; but specie payment is not only required by the public faith, but it is now demanded by public policy, or, to use a narrower phrase, it is wise politically economy. Experience has established that every nation which has depreciated the specie basis in exchange with a nation having a better currency, if we buy abroad, specie is the standard of value, and the cost of the article, too, is at once increased by an addition of the depreciation of our money and a percentage for exchange and risk. What we sell abroad is also measured by the specie standard, and the loss by exchange, whether we buy or sell, is paid by us. The loss is more severe when applied to contracts to be paid in the future, and especially to railroad and other bonds payable after a period of years. These bonds must be paid in gold, whether the gold is obtained for or not. And yet the price paid for them is usually in currency. We pay in gold and receive in currency, and this at the outset subtracts from the value of the entire depreciation of our currency. The interest paid on this discount of our bonds would in many cases, if applied as a sinking fund, pay off the whole of the principal before it accrues. That a depreciation of the currency always injuriously affects a community in which it exists was shown by the experience of the colonies before the War of Independence. In each of them some form of depreciated money was used. The use of the pound and shilling in current use was only from one-half to par of the value of the standard coin of Great Britain, and this depreciation often measured the poverty or necessity of the colony using it. With the currency in common use before the late war, and which depended entirely upon the law of the State authorizing it, the notes of the Western States were, as a rule, depreciated, and these States suffered the loss; while in the Eastern States, in which a better banking system prevailed, the notes were maintained at the specie standard; and great profits and accommodations were made by their practical monopoly of the banking business. The great body of our people do not pause to consider their loss by the use of depreciated money. It is a tax on money, it brings all the necessaries of life, it pays debts, it is convenient to carry and is of uniform value throughout the United States, and it amply secures all these advantages are obvious and satisfactory; but all of them would be better secured with a currency that will purchase as much food or clothing as the same sum in gold coin; that will measure the products of all other nations as well as our own, and is not subject to the fluctuations and speculative changes of our present currency.

Again, it is impossible to give to a depreciated currency the quality of flexibility. A suspension of specie payments necessarily suspends all redemptions of paper money. The United States notes being irredeemable, the national banks are relieved from redemption; all of them being once paid out, there is no object in their return to them, and not only the United States get the benefit of a forced loan from the people without interest, and without the burden of redemption, but the banks get the benefit of a forced loan from the people without interest, and without the burden of redemption. It is true that the banks are required to maintain a certain reserve of United States notes to secure the redemption of their bank-notes, but, practically, we know, that no notes are furnished for redemption. It is on this ground they reply to us to relieve them from the burden of maintaining a reserve. We are told that we require them to keep idle in their vaults currency sorely needed by the business community, merely to secure the redemption of notes that we never presented for redemption. It is true that a bank reserve is unnecessary and indefensible unless for the redemption of their notes. If the idea of redemption is abandoned or indefinitely postponed, then all reserves should be dispensed with, for the only object is to make the currency abundant, without regard to its value compared with coin, then any reserve is a folly, indeed the whole national banking system would be indefensible if our currency is to be permanently irredeemable. It is impossible to state a reason why the whole of the bonds can be issued by the United States, or why any of it should be issued by a bank. The only benefit the public derives from a bank of issue as distinguished from the private interest of its stockholders is that the bank note is the convenient representative of coin; that its capital, resources, and reserve furnish a security for the redemption of its note in coin, and that it is a convenient agency to obtain and retire the notes by loans to those engaged in producing and transporting property. Any system that abandons the redemption of bank notes in coin will inevitably lead to the abandonment of banks of issue. For the public will no longer allow the banks to derive a profit from issuing notes unless they assume the burden of redeeming them. This is understood by the national banks. They do not shrink from the duty of redeeming their notes, but say that all the issues of the United States are alike in money and a legal tender, and are both depreciated and irredeemable, that the banks cannot redeem except with United States notes. It is the United States notes that stand in the way of specie payments. And by any wise and honest adjustment of par with coin, the obligation of the banks to maintain their notes in coin would be easily enforced. Even the superior excellence of the national banking system would be demonstrated. It would no longer be a privilege, limited under the law as it now stands, would be free to all who choose to engage in the business. The glorious privilege of banking under its stringency at another would be regulated by the redemption of notes when abundant, and their increased issue when required by new demands. Any attempt to make a corner by locking up coin in the bank would be met by its issue by another. The corresponding privileges and burdens of a bank of issue would relieve them from the objections to the issue of paper money for use for the purposes of speculation. Every man, under the sanction of his oath, would be required to issue only for the purposes of current expenses and the purchase of bonds, precisely as now, when a gold fee is received, the notes is applied to the purchase of bonds. In this way we should have reached a specie standard the moment our five per cent. bonds were worth par in gold. The advancing credit of the nation would have brought our currency to par in gold precisely as it lifted all forms of bonds to par, or when par in gold; and now, when our credit is by no means unfavorable, paired by rapid payment of the debt as induced by the advanced value of our currency. We can for that purpose we carried the paste credit into a limited amount of lawful money, but promised to pay this money in coin. When the lawful money was issued we did not anticipate the extent of its depreciation, and constantly kept in view its speedy redemption. Ordinarily the practice of government in furnishing money is limited to stamping upon gold and silver of certain weight and fineness its attested value. Here its duty ends. But in war time this process of coining did not meet the public necessities, and the United States carried its credit into money; and this process has been upheld by all departments of the government. Still, this money is but a form of public debt, a promise to pay specific quantities of gold and silver. In the National Banking Act Congress assumed that the United States would maintain its paper money at par with coin as nearly as its necessities would allow. It provided for an auxiliary currency, also to be at par in gold, and to be issued by banks. Every provision of that act contemplates that the United States notes and bank-bills should be equal to gold and to each other. This is the reason for the provision for redemption and for a large reserve. The Banking act also anticipated that the United States might withdraw its notes, and then that bank-notes were directly to be redeemed with coin. Still the Bank act provided for the common existence of both kinds of notes, and experience shows that both may be maintained in circulation with profit to the United States. While no provision is made for the redemption of United States notes, the provision for the redemption of bank notes is nullified. Our whole system of currency becomes incongruous by our failure to provide for the redemption of United States notes. If then, public faith, public policy, and the spirit of our laws demand that our currency be restored to the specie standard, it would seem that the only remaining inquiry should be, What is the best way to resume? But here we meet the objection of many business men, the most active and enterprising of our people, who tell us that specie payments with them adds largely to the burden of our debts; that upon the basis of the existing law, and the condition of inflation always produced by depreciated money, they have contracts, contracted debts payable in currency, and that now to add to the value of that currency is to embarrass, cripple and ruin them. Some tell us they are prepared to meet the general approach to specie payments caused by the increase of business and credit of the country, while others tell us that the country needs more currency, that its growth in population, expansion in business, and new enterprises render an increase of currency indispensable. The argument of any measure upon the interests of active business men should be carefully studied, but individual hardship is not sufficient reason for a violation of public faith, or a disregard of the general interests or prosperity of the whole people. Our citizens have had full action of the policy of the government. The act of Congress already cited, the decision of the Supreme Court, and the promises of opposing parties, are well known to all taxpayers, and the effect of specie payment is greatly exaggerated as to the persons it will injure. Our business men are not only debtors, but they are creditors. If they are injured by all who are burdened on their debts, they are benefited by the increased value of their credits. No one engaged in production merely, whether as a financier or manufacturer, a mechanic or a laborer, is injured, for if the general value of his productions is diminished, the cost of living and all that enters into the cost of production is diminished in the same degree. Experience has shown that depreciated money is most injurious to saving men; it produces a false standard of value, the effect of which is not noticed by a laboring man, or by a trader or merchant, the quick currency of sales and credit the effect of a specie standard will surely appreciate them to be converted into coin, and be counted in advance, or be divided during the gradual appreciation of paper money. The greater burden will fall upon dead running for a long period of time, as upon corporation bonds and mortgages. As to the alleged existence of specie payments act look effect, it is but right they be paid in specie, while those contracted since have been issued in the expectation of specie payments before that time; still, while the effect of a specie standard upon debts is greatly exaggerated, it cannot be denied that if it is followed by a contraction of the currency it will cause distress and embarrassment to every man who has contracted debt on a currency basis. But this argument of hardship will apply forever. If we are confined by it we can never pay our pensioners; the lapse of time will not make it easier. The financial condition is now at its worst, stronger that we can afford to do right, and yet in such a way as to injure in the least possible degree those who have contracted debts on a currency basis. Again, the effect of a specie standard in producing a contraction of the currency is greatly exaggerated; a contraction of the currency is not necessarily the result of specie payments. Unquestionably, a contraction of the currency would produce specie payments. It is the direct object to bring about specie payments, and if the paper money in circulation is in excess of the wants of the community, it is the only road. We, in 1865 to 1867, unnecessarily contracted the currency by funding over $300,000,000 of debt of compound interest and other bonds, and thereby caused the first great currency. If, in 1868, we had, as was proposed in the Senate, authorized the Secretary who holds the notes for five per cent. bonds at par we would have long since been at specie payments. The notes then would have been paid out again for the payment of current expenses and the purchase of bonds, precisely as now, when a gold fee is received, the notes is applied to the purchase of bonds. In this way we would have reached a specie standard the moment our five per cent. bonds were worth par in gold. The advancing credit of the nation would have lifted our currency to par in gold precisely as it lifted all forms of bonds to par, or when par in gold; and now, when our credit is by no means unfavorable paired by rapid payment of the debt as induced by the advanced value of our currency. We can for that purpose we carried the paste credit into a limited amount of lawful money, but promised to pay this money in coin. When the lawful money was issued we did not anticipate the extent of its depreciation, and constantly kept in view its speedy redemption. Ordinarily the practice of government in furnishing money is limited to stamping upon gold and silver of certain weight and fineness its attested value. Here its duty ends. But in war time this process of coining did not meet the public necessities, and the United States carried its credit into money; and this process has been upheld by all departments of the government. Still, this money is but a form of public debt, a promise to pay specific quantities of gold and silver. In the National Banking Act Congress assumed that the United States would maintain its paper money at par with coin as nearly as its necessities would allow. It provided for an auxiliary currency, also to be at par in gold, and to be issued by banks. Every provision of that act contemplates that the United States notes and bank-bills should be equal to gold and to each other. This is the reason for the provision for redemption and for a large reserve. The Banking act also anticipated that the United States might withdraw its notes, and then that bank-notes were directly to be redeemed with coin. 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FINANCE AND TRADE.

MONDAY EVENING, January 20, 1873.

A correspondent asks us concerning the "Suffolk Bank System of Boston," so often referred to by us in speaking of a redemption agency for national bank currency. We answer: The Boston banks find the money depreciated in value always drives out and takes the place of a sounder currency, and that the depreciated bills of country banks found their way to Boston, thus driving home for redemption their own bills, determined not to receive such depreciated issues, either on deposit or in payment of notes, [illegible] their possession into parcels and could afford to [illegible] the smallest parcel home for redemption in coin, losing interest and paying the expense of transportation.

Every merchant who had dealings with a Boston bank laid aside on the Boston bank bills that he received for the sake of making deposits or paying his obligations at the banks. The country bank bills [illegible] settlement of purchases. Thus the depreciated country bank paper was maintained in circulation, the good bills not subject to discount were returned to the banks as soon as issued. The Boston banks, headed by the Suffolk Bank, determined to compel the country banks to redeem their notes, not only at their own counter, but at the Metropolis. Each of these country banks was to be required to keep sufficient coin with their Boston correspondent to redeem any of their notes that might be offered. The combination could then afford to take country bank notes at par; being equally redeemable with their own notes, they would share together the profits arising out of their circulation. If any bank refused to enter into such an arrangement, they would unite and present a large amount of its notes at its counter without warning, a measure which would lead to suspension.

Such was the famous Suffolk Bank system so successfully tried forty years ago, and which is practiced in this city to some extent fifteen years since, and which might be applied not unprofitably to remedying some of the evils of our present system.

—Messrs. Ira B. McVay & Co. report the following quotations of Government bonds in New York to-day, as furnished them by Jay Cook & Co., their correspondents:

	Morn.	Noon.
U. S. Bonds of 1881	115¼	115¼
U. S. Bonds of 1862	114¾	114¾
U. S. Bonds of 1864	114¾	114¾
U. S. Bonds of 1865	115¾	115¾
U. S. Bonds of 1865, new	115¾	115¾
U. S. Bonds of 1867	115¾	115¾
U. S. Bonds of 1868	115¾	115¾
10-40's	112	112
New 5s	112¾	112¾
Currency 6s	114	114

—James T. Brady & Co., corner of Fourth avenue and Wood street, quote United States securities in New York to-day as follows:

Gold	112¾
United States 6s of 1881	115¾
United States 5-20s of 1865	115¼
United States 5-20s of 1864	114¾
United States 5-20s of 1865	115¾
United States 10-40s	112
United States 5-30s, January and July, 1865	114¾
United States 5-30s, January and July, 1867	115¾
United States 5-30s, January and July, 1868	115¾
Currency Sixes	114

—The Committee on securities of the Stock Exchange has issued the following circular concerning the calling of North Carolina bonds:

The United States Circuit Court has ordered the distribution of $162,000, now in the hands of a receiver, applicable to payment of a portion of the past due interest upon the following described bonds of the State of North Carolina, viz: Nos. 1 to 500, dated January 1, 1853, due January 1, 1883; Nos. 501 to 1,000, dated July 1, 1853, due July 1, 1883; Nos. 1,001 to 1,500, dated January 1, 1854, due January 1, 1884; Nos. 1,501 to 1,650, dated July 1, 1854, due July 1, 1884; 1,651 to 1,800, dated January 1, 1855, due January 1, 1885; and Nos. 2,001 to 2,200, dated April 1, 1858, due April 1, 1888, issued on the North Carolina Railroad Company.

The receiver will pay at Raleigh, N. C., 89 per cent. of the amount of such of the seven coupons on said bonds maturing in 1869, 1870, 1871, and including April, 1872, under first mortgage, as may be presented and proved on or before December 4, 1872. These bonds are called at the Executive Office, North Carolina coupons, to aid North Carolina Railroad Company." The coupons from a part of these bonds are only partially, one half, have been presented and paid. Dr. Kimball, Comptroller, states that on and after this date they shall be called separately—viz.: those with coupons on, dated January 1, 1869, and all subsequent, as now—and those with free coupons, seven coupons (as specified above) on; or, in other words, all coupons on, dated July, 1872, or subsequent, and all subsequent on the call to be designated as "North Carolina old bonds, to aid North Carolina Railroad Company—coupons on;" and "North Carolina old bonds, to aid North Carolina Railroad Company—coupons off."

—The following table shows the prices of railway stocks, gold, &c., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day, furnished by George I. Whitney, Esq., broker and dealer in stocks, bonds and gold corner of Fifth avenue and Wood street:

January 20, 1873.	10:30	11:30	12:30	1:30	2:30	3:30
Gold	112¾	112¾	112¾	112¾	112¾	112¾
Western Union	85¾	85¾	85¾	85¾	85¾	85¾
Pacific Mail	71¾	71¾	71¾	71¾	71¾	71¾
New York Central	93¾	93¾	93¾	93¾	93¾	93¾
Erie	61¾	61¾	61¾	61¾	61¾	61¾
Reading	97¾	97¾	97¾	97¾	97¾	97¾
Canton	100¼	100¼	100¼	100¼	100¼	100¼
Fort Wayne	92¼	92¼	92¼	92¼	92¼	92¼
Illinois Central	120	120	120	120	120	120
Chicago & Rock Island	111¼	111¼	111¼	111¼	111¼	111¼
Pittsburgh & Fort Wayne	97¾	97¾	97¾	97¾	97¾	97¾
Chicago & Alton	113	113	113	113	113	113
Ohio & Mississippi	46¾	46¾	46¾	46¾	46¾	46¾
Cleveland & Pittsburgh	97¾	97¾	97¾	97¾	97¾	97¾
Michigan Southern	93¾	93¾	93¾	93¾	93¾	93¾
Northwestern	80¾	80¾	80¾	80¾	80¾	80¾
Northwestern preferred	88¼	88¼	88¼	88¼	88¼	88¼
Rock Island	111¼	111¼	111¼	111¼	111¼	111¼
St. Paul	52¾	52¾	52¾	52¾	52¾	52¾
Do preferred	103¾	103¾	103¾	103¾	103¾	103¾

—The usual money market continues to work with commendable quiet, not a spirit from neighboring towns making its appearance on the street, seeking "good commercial two named paper" at one per cent. a month, something which is hard to find at present, if all parties agree as to what is "good." The funds of the banks are readily taken up by regular customers at 8 to 10 per cent. per annum. Merchants are complaining that collections from the West are still lagging and ask some indulgences from their creditors in consequence.

Messrs. Robinson Bros., bankers, No. 78 Fourth avenue, furnish the following telegraphic report of quotation of active stocks on the Philadelphia Stock Board to-day:

Penn'a Central	87½
Reading	97½
United Co.'s of N.J.	121½
Cam. & Amboy	125
Lehigh Valley R. R.	60
Lehigh Navigation	38
Pittsburgh 5s	72½
A. V. R. R. 7-30s	90¾
Central Transp'n	46¾

PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, MONDAY, January 20, 1873.

REMARKS.—The snow which fell on Sunday morning remains with us yet, but the indications are that it will soon depart. Should it "go off" with a rain there would doubtless be an old fashioned flood in the rivers. But as the ice is principally out of the way little apprehensions for destruction of property is felt.

There have been some important changes in market values since our last report. Among them we may mention an advance in flour, a decline in sugar cured hams and roasted coffees have advanced. The changes will be found noted below. Other leading articles remain unchanged in prices. There is not an active one, yet no s ower than is usually the case at this season of the year. Below we give the wholesale rates of the market unless otherwise noted:

ASHES—Pearls 1[illegible]; pots [illegible]; seconds 4½@4 5c; refined 6@6½c; No. 1 pearl 5½@5¾c; arsenic 3½@4c.

APPLE BUTTER—Sales at 80@85c per gallon.

ALES—Sales of Pittsburgh brands at the following figures: X, $2 @ bbl; XX, $10; India Ale, $11; Porter $10 @ bbl.

APPLES—Receipts lighter, being only 465 barrels. Choice cooking held at $2 50@2 75 @ bbl; fair $2 00@2 25.

BUTTER—Receipts on the increase, being 102 packages against 65. Prices are weaker, though not quotably lower. Choice roll 22@23c @ lb; prime 17@20c; common 8@10c.

BEANS—Demand for white navy fair; sales at $2 50@2 75 as to quality; common $2 00.

BRIMSTONE—Sales in a jobbing way at 2½@3c @ lb.

BAKING POWDER—1 lb cans, @ dozen $6 00; ½ lb cans $3 25; ¼ lb cans $1 75.

BROOM CORN—Prices nominally 4½@7c, as to quality and condition.

BACON AND PROVISIONS—Receipts bacon, tierces 1,256. The only change we have to note in prices is in sugar cured hams which have declined ½@ per lb. The new crop of cured meats has found its way into the leading houses, and as it has been cured with the view of meeting the wants and tastes of this community, we predict that it will meet ready sale. Those who were fortunate enough to "lay" a ham on their first arrival say they are at that an epicure could desire. We quote sugar cured hams 13½c; sugar cured shoulders 7½c; plain shoulders 6c; rib sides 8½c; clear rib sides 8c; clear sides 9c; breakfast bacon 10½@11c; dried beef 18c; smoke pork $14 50; ham sausage 10c; loaf lard, in tierces, 8½c; half bbls 9½c; pails 10c; pigs feet, in half bbls, $4 75; in kegs $2 40.

COUNTRY MEATS—Hams 8c; clear sides 6½c; shoulders 5½c. Lard 7½c per lb.

CEMENT—Akhurst plaster $4 25@4 50 per bbl; Beeson's hydraulic cement $2 00@2 25; Louisville $2 50@2 75; Rosendale $1 60@1 75.

CHEESE—We quote as follows: New York Goshen, 17½@18c; Ohio Factory, 13½@14c; Dairy 13½@14c; Ohio Factory, round lots, 14c; Jobbing lots 14½@15c; inferior grades in small lots 10@12½c.

CIDER—Sales at $5@7 per bbl. Market slow.

CRANBERRIES—There is a fair demand; Seekett's and Carey's at $10@15 @ bbl; cultivated and common can be had at $8@13 @ bbl.

CARBON OIL—Prices have declined. We quote: Standard White, 150 test, at 16½@17c, with the usual advance from store.

CONCENTRATED LYE—The demand continues fair with sales at $5 @ case.

DRIED FRUITS—Sales peaches, halves, 7½@8½c; apples, sliced, choice, 5½@5¾c; fair, 4½@5c.

DRESSED HOGS—Sales at 6½@6¾ @ lb. Demand light.

EGGS—Strictly fresh at 25@26c; packed 23@30c @ dozen.

FISH—White fish $5 50 @ half barrel; mackerel, shore, $30@32 per barrel; No. 1 bay $16@18; No. 2 shore, $14@15; No. 3 large, $11@12; all in small packages, $4 75, and $7 in bbls; new cod fish $5 50@6 00; new Labrador split $5 50@6 00; new Labrador $7 50.

FLOUR—Receipts 1,209 barrels. The market is quite active and at rates from yesterday's mill sales at the advanced rates. An advance in Minnesotas are anticipated ere the close of the week. The inquiries are not up to the demand. Fancy white wheat brands must go higher, on account of limited supply and the high price here. There are large orders from all parts of the country, and it is with difficulty that these can fill them. We quote as follows: Stores—Penn Mills, barrels $9 25: Rising Star $9 25; Minnesota, brand $9 50; Cresent $7 25; Mills—National, white wheat, $10 20 @ bbl; Pan Handle, southern amber, $9 50; Morning Glory, red amber, $9.

GROCERIES.—Trade is only moderate, save in the article of coffee, which is active, owing to the certainty of it going higher. The news of the burning of the steamer Erie has been confirmed, and the loss of twenty thousand bags of coffee is one that must affect the price even more than it will to look for much higher prices, and we can say to the trade that coffees are selling here at one to two cents per pound less than market value. The reader's attention is called to the change in the price of roasted coffees. We quote as follows:

Sugar—Knight's yellow 8¾c; Knight's extra C 10¾c; H & E, yellow, 10c; H & E C, 11¼c; H & E, extra, 11¾@12c; Phenix, yellow, 10c; Calvert's extra C 10c; Calvert's extra, 11 10¾c; Calvert's A 12¼c; crushed 13¾c; powdered 13¾c; granulated 14c; cut loaf 14c; Demarara 11¾c; New Orleans 10¾@11c.

Coffee—Rio 20@20½; good 21½@22½; prime 23@23½c; strictly prime 24@25c; fancy 26@26½c; Java, mocha 30@32c; in packages, 27c.

Syrups—Common 60@63c; Crystal 55c; H & E XXX; maple reserve 60@65c; Union 70c; Phenix 70c; white drips $1 30.

Rice—Carolina 8¾@9c; Rangoon 7½@7¾c.

New Orleans Molasses—[illegible] @ gallon.

Pacific by rail—The

GRAIN—The books at the Grain Elevator show the following receipts for the past [illegible] hours: Barley, [illegible] same period, in sacks, from all sources, 2,000 bushels; Wheat, 400 bushels, 60% corn, sacks, 640; barley, sacks, 325; rye, sacks, 197; oats, sacks, 209. The receipts, as will be seen, are light, and prices are very firm. Why the arrival of wheat are so much larger is a question difficult to answer. For the present the state of the weather has to shoulder most of the blame. We have no changes to note in prices, with the only passing remark that there is not enough wheat, corn and oats changing hands upon which to base quotations. Sales of red are reported at $1 70@1 80. Oats 49@50c, with stock extremely light. Corn—Shelled, on track, 57@58c; in ear, 50@52c; on track, 60c. Barley—Sales 61 c@ [illegible] and scarce.

HAY—Market dull, 25 to 50c @ ton lower.

HONEY—Demand fair at 25@30c @ lb.

HORSES—Are now selling in this market at 55 @ 65 @ head and scarce; [illegible] quotable.

LIME—Cleveland white $2 @ bbl; eastern $1 75.

LARD OIL—No 1 extra 90@92c @ gallon; No 2 60c.

MILL FEED—Sales by the ton at $1 00@1 10 for corn; middlings $2 00@2 25, as to quality; corn meal $1 30 @ 100 lbs.

MINCE MEAT—Choice brands 12c @ lb.

ONIONS—We are reported sales of yellow $4 00@4 50; reds $3 00@3 50. Market fairly active and stocks light.

ORANGES—Sales in bulk at 50c; sacks 55@200.

PEARS—Dressed turkeys 16@18c; dressed chickens 11@14c; dressed geese 5@6½c; dressed ducks 10@14c.

PEAS—Held at $2 25@2 30 @ bu.

SALT—Sales ASHTON'S 1 at $1 65 @ per bbl; No 2 $1 50.

SARATOGA—Sales at $6 00 @ case of 6 doz.

SHOT—Drop $1 75@1 85; buckshot $1 90@2 00; all other seed $3 00@3 25.

TALLOW—Sales at 8c@8½c @ lb.

WHISKY—Highwines 92½@93c @ gal.

ALLEGHENY LIVE STOCK MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, MONDAY, January 20, 1873.

Cattle.

The receipts of cattle by the different railroads centering at the Union pens were thirty-seven car loads, one half of which came from Ohio and the balance from Chicago. In addition to these by rail there were two loads driven in from neighboring towns. Washington and a few from Butler county, making in all some seven hundred head of cattle as the total of offerings this morning. In quality the cattle from the surrounding country and those from Ohio were fair to extra. The market opened, as usual, about seven o'clock, but trade ruled dull and slow from the opening to the close. Prices, as compared with last week, were a shade lower on all grades of cattle, though as has been the case for some time, common cattle sold the slowest and ruled the lowest. In the absence of anything approaching choice of lots, sold as high as $5 25, but the figure was an extreme price, and rather the exception than otherwise.

The runs of cattle are heavier for the season of the year than usual, and, of course, more plentiful; there is not much chance to advance the market, and we have no remark that we can make but a very little higher than during the fall.

At twelve o'clock the market came nearly to a close, and those cattle unsold were left unsold. The most of them were sent to East Liberty for to-day's business. Below will be found the arrivals for the week, and also, sales as reported by the different dealers.

Arrivals.

CATTLE.

	Cars.
J. Cockins, Jr., Bellair	1
H. Dunheney, Bellair	1
F. Hupp, Bellair	1
Talbott & Bro., Bellair	1
R. A. Harrell, Bellair	1
James P. Reed, Bellair	1
Jno. Sheppard, Bellair	1
Jno. Sheppard, Bellair	1
R. H. Davis, Bellair	1
Peter Dodd, Chicago	1
Marks & Bro., Chicago	1
I. Keifer, Chicago	1
Marks & Bro., Chicago	3
S. Krause, Chicago	2
Hall & Sons, Chicago	1
W. Hoosehine, Chicago	1
M. Varner, Chicago	2
Hall & Sons, Chicago	1
Groenches & Haas, Chicago	1
N. Ross, Jr., Wooster	1
Greenman & K., Ridgeway	1
Jno. Hall, Canton	1
H. Daniels, Palestine	1
E. Bonnerman, Mercers	1
Rogers & Varner, Bridgeport	1
J. Jenkins, Bridgeport	1
Jno. Hall, Canton	1
R. Kerr, Chicago	1

HOGS.

	Cars.
P. M. Gardner, Orrville	2
J. Rothenbine, East Liberty	1

Cattle Sales.

M. Krauss retailed 2 cars of Chicago cattle at prices varying from $5 15 to $6 50 @ 100 lbs.

S. Hughes sold 6 head of Butler county cattle at $4 @ 100 lbs.

Keefer & Beyers retailed 2 cars of Chicago cattle at figures ranging from $5 00 to $5 40 @ 100 lbs.

M. Bonner sold 10 head of Butler county cattle at $4 25 @ 100 lbs.

M. Kaufman sold 12 head of Washington county cattle at prices from $4 00 to $4 50 @ 100 lbs.

Grover & Hamilton sold 10 head of Ohio and Pennsylvania cattle at prices ranging from $4 00 to $5 50 @ 100 lbs.

P. Shoenamsted sold 13 head of Butler county cattle at figures from $4 00@5 25 @ 100 lbs.

Hall & Sons sold 10 head of Chicago cattle at prices varying from $5 00 to $5 50 @ 100 lbs.

Bamberger & Bro. retailed 2 car loads of Chicago cattle at figures ranging from $5 50 to $6 25 @ 100 lbs.

J. Neely sold 43 head of Ohio cattle at prices from $4 00 to $5 75 @ 100 lbs.

M. Varner retailed 2 cars of Chicago cattle at prices varying from $5 00 to $5 50 @ 100 lbs.

S. Lowenstine sold 16 head of Washington county cattle at figures from $3 75 to $4 50 @ 100 lbs.

Thomas Hanna sold 13 head of Washington county cattle at prices from $4 00 to $5 00 @ 100 lbs.

S. Thomas sold 21 head of Ohio cattle at prices ranging from $5 00 to $6 50 @ 100 lbs.

Hollis, Lafferty & Co. sold 11 head of Ohio cattle at figures running from $6 00 to $6 50 @ 100 lbs.

S. Shamberger retailed 1 car of Ohio cattle at prices ranging from $4 75 to $5 50 @ 100 lbs.

S. Hughes retailed 2 cars of Chicago cattle at prices from $6 25 to $7 25 @ 100 lbs.

Sadler, Havens & Co. retailed 4 cars of Ohio cattle at figures from $5 50 to $6 25 @ 100 lbs, and wholesaled 1 car at $5 75 @ 100 lbs.

Krauss & Smith retailed 25 head of Chicago cattle at prices varying from $5 50 to $7 @ 100 lbs.

J. Zeigler sold 12 head of mixed cattle at prices from $5 to $5 60 @ 100 lbs.

S. Lowenstine sold 12 head of Washington county cattle at figures from $3 50 to $4 @ 100 lbs.

J. Shamberg sold 22 head of Chicago cattle at prices ranging from $4 to $6 @ 100 lbs.

PITTSBURGH OIL TRADE.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, TUESDAY, January 21, 1873.

REMARKS.—The oil market remains in that unsettled condition, the same as we left it on Saturday. It neither exhibits life nor animation, in fact there is no demand for crude for either present or future delivery. We quote spot 5¼@5¾c; Parker's dull at 2¾ per bbl.

REFINED

is in the same condition as the raw material. We quote nominally standard brands 16¼@17c free on cars at works. We did not hear of any transactions.

[By Western Union Line.]

TITUSVILLE, January 20.—The *Herald* says: The market is firm and moderately active, with considerable amount changed hands on speculation. The sales are larger than for several weeks, speculators looking for higher prices. Futures sold considerably in advance of immediate delivery. The production is claimed by many to have fallen off considerably during the past two or three weeks, on account of shutting down many small wells. Sales:

5,000 bbls, Parker's, spot	2 00
2,000 bbls b. o., 1st quarter	2 05
1,000 bbls spot, 1st quarter	1 95
1,000 bbls, Thlotnie, spot	2 05
500 bbls, Thlotnie, spot	2 02½
1,000 bbls, Oil City	2 00
1,000 bbls upper road	2 02
250 bbls upper road	2 03½
4,000 bbls, s. o. 1st quarter	2 10
3,000 bbls, b. o. 1st quarter	2 00
2,000 bbls, a part for 10 cents @ bbl	2 00
1,000 bbls, a call for 1st quarter, 10 cents @ bbl	2 00

NEW YORK, January 20, closing Saturday.—Market very quiet. Prices for crude in bulk lower. Refined unsettled and nominal: 1,000 barrels crude in bulk sold at 8½c, closing at 8½c. Refined for immediate delivery 21½c. Cases offering 21½c. Philadelphia delivery quiet market, sellers of refined at 21½c, with 21 bid.

OIL CITY, January 20.—Market dull and declining at 22 25; cash lower and upper roads $2 00@2 10.

PETROLEUM CENTER, January 20.—Market dull at $2 00.

TITUSVILLE, January 20.—Market quiet and dull; offering spot at $2 00.

PARKERSBURG, January 20.—Market dull; S. W. 27c; crude 3c; cases 37c.

[By Pacific and Atlantic Telegraph Line.]

OIL CITY, January 20.—Market quiet at $2 20@2 30. Not much doing.

FOXBURG, January 20.—Market firm at $1 90@2 00. No sellers.

TITUSVILLE, January 20.—Market very quiet. We quote at $2@2 05.

PARKERSBURG, January 20.—Market dull, and nothing doing. Can't quote price.

PHILADELPHIA, January 20.—Crude 3c; refined 27c.

NEW YORK, January 20.—Crude 3c; refined 27½c.

TORONTO, January 20.—Market dull at $2.

Crude Oil Received by A. V. R. R.

Shippers.	Consignees.	Bbls.
B S Duncan	American Oil Works	1,910
Macomber & Co	Cochran's	486
Macomber & Co	Macomber & Co	204
Gallitzin Oil & B	Macomber & Co	471
J McKelvy	Vesta Oil Works	536
J McKelvy	Diamond Oil Works	482
Fairview Oil Works	Sunbeam Oil Works	473
Lycoming Oil Co	Fairview Oil Works	608
Petrolite Oil Works	Macomber & Co	245
Total	Cosmos Oil Works	208
	Peerless Oil Works	504
	Total	5,708

CINCINNATI.

[Reported by Addy, Hull & Co.]

January 20.—Pig Iron—Market quiet, with prices a shade easier for forge and No. 1 foundry, and firm for special. Car wheel irons are in active request, and the demand is with difficulty supplied.

HOT BLAST CHARCOAL PIG, PER TON.

Hanging Rock		Tennessee No 1	$34
No. 1	$25	Tennessee No 2	44@45
Hanging Rock		Alabama No 1	55@56
No. 2	38@34	Missouri No 1	56@57
Hanging Rock Forge	45	Missouri No 2	54@57

COLD BLAST STONE COAL.

Missouri No. 1	$55	Ohio No. 1	$54@55
Missouri Forge	44@45	Ohio Forge	41
Scotch Pig, extra	54@55		

COLD BLAST CHARCOAL.

Hanging Rock C. W.	60@65	Georgia	$60@65
Missouri C. W.	60@62	Alabama	60@62
Kentucky	60	Machinery	60
Tennessee	60	Forge	58@60

BLOOMS.

Charcoal	$112@114

MARKETS BY TELEGRAPH.

[By Pacific and Atlantic Telegraph Line.]

CHICAGO, ILL., January 20, 1873.

FLOUR—Demand good at full prices; extra $6 00 at 60.

GRAIN—Wheat scarce and firm; No 2 spring $1 25⅞ cash; $1 26⅛ seller February; rejected $1 00. Corn steady, with a moderate demand; 39¼c cash; 39¾c seller February. Oats steady with a moderate demand; No 2, 25½c; rejected 24½c. Rye steady and firm; No 2, 68c. Barley—Demand active and prices advanced, but irregular at 93@96c.

PROVISIONS—Quiet and steady. Pork—No seller. Lard—Sales in fair demand at 6½c. Bulk shoulders sold at 5½c loose; short rib middles, boxed, 6¾c. Green meats—Hams 10@10½ average. Dry salted meats—Demand light and market firm; for light $4 60; heavy dull at $4 35@4 45.

WHISKY—Dull at 88c.

New York Market.

NEW YORK, January 20.—Cotton in moderate request; middling upland 23½c; sales of futures 9,400 bales, as follows: January 19 7-16@19¾; February 19 9-16@19 15-16; March 20@20 1-16; April 20 5-16@20 9-16c; May 20¾@20¾c; June 20 15-16@21c; July 21 7-16@21 9-16c. Flour more active and firmer. Provisions 6,000 bbls; superfine western and State $5 20 @5 85; common to good $7 25@7 75; choice to extra $7 80@8 00; extra Ohio $7 85@8 00; extra St. Louis $8 10@8 60. Rye flour steady at $4 15@5 90. Corn meal firm. White corn $1 05@1 06; western $1 03@1 05. Whisky steady at 95c. Wheat more active and higher; winter scarce; receipts 1,000 bushels; fair to strictly prime No 2 Milwaukee afloat, $1 48@1 50; choice Northwest spring $1 67; red western $1 90@1 95; amber western, $1 90@1 95; amber western $2. Barley in fair demand; store 87 1/2@1 08; choice, delivered, 9 cents. Rye quiet; 1,000 bushels; old western mixed, afloat, 65@66c; store 63½@64c; white western 66@66c. Oats firmer and more active; 1,000 bushels; new mixed western 39@39½c; old western 42@43c; white western 42@43c; white Canada 43@44c. Coffee stronger; Rio 17@19c. Sugar more active and firmer; Centrifugal 10c; fair to good refining 9@9¾c. Rice quiet at 9@9¾c. Petroleum—Crude 8¾@8¾c; refined 21½c. Provisions quiet and unchanged. Pork steady; $17 25@ for old; mess $9 00@11 75; extra $12@13 50. Cut meats quiet. Shoulders active. Bellies 7c. Middles quiet and steady; long clear, March, 6¾c. Lard quiet and firm; 7c. Lard quiet and weak; western steam 6¾c; kettle 6¾c. Butter—Western firm at 12@16c. Cheese firm at 12@16c.

New York Live Stock Market.

NEW YORK, January 20.—Beeves—Total receipts 9,300 head, against 5,400 head the previous week; 30 car loads for Communipaw, 200 head at One Hundredth street, and 41 cars at Weehawken, making 71 car loads, 1,840 head against 2,300 head; a majority of the stock came in late and could not all be sold; weather warm, indicating rain, and butchers held back their purchases, thinking they could get cheaper; a very small number at the latter price; 11@12½c for extra; 10@10¾c for good; 9@9¾c for fair; 8@8½c for selling at 9¾@10c; sales 5 cars Illinois, 6¼ cwt, 1,320 lbs, at 10c; 5 cars Illinois, 6¼ cwt, 1,320 lbs, at 10c; 5 cars good Texans, 6 cwt, 1,200 lbs, at 9½c; 2 cars, 6¼ cwt, at $44; 6 cars fair Kentucky steers, 5 cwt, 1,140 lbs; 4 cars Texans, 5¼ cwt, 996 lbs, at 9c; 2 cars, 5¾ cwt, 1,092 lbs, at 9c; 2 cars Illinois, 6¼ cwt, 1,170 lbs; the back stock of three days was poured in to-day.

Sheep—Receipts to-day 26,900 head, against 18,500 head the previous week; on sale to-day 16,000 head at the start at 5½@6c; closing at 5½@5¾c; 2 cars, 121 lbs, fat, Ohio, sc; 2 cars, 90 lbs, 5½c; 2 cars, 98 lbs, 5½c; 2 cars, 100 lbs, 5½c; 2 cars, 98 lbs, 5¾c; 2 cars, 98 lbs, 5¾c; 2 cars, 98 lbs, 5¾

THE VERY LATEST.

THE FIRE AT PARKER'S.

WORK OF AN INCENDIARY.

Three Acres Burned Over.

Full List of Buildings Destroyed.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

PARKER'S LANDING, January 20, 1873.

There are two theories as to the origin of the fire which consumed nearly half of this town yesterday afternoon—one that it was accidental, and the other that it was the work of design. As stated in my dispatch last night, the fire broke out in a room over the Opera House saloon, and Mr. Dolan, the proprietor, states that he had been unoccupied for three months, and that he discovered the fire in the front part of it, away from any chimney or other medium of communicating heat; while several other people say that simultaneously with the discovery they saw flames issuing from the rear of the Opera House adjoining, leaving no doubt but that it was the work of an incendiary. The saloon was situated at the north end of the town, and on the west side of Main street, which runs north and south. In the rear and parallel to Main street were two narrow streets, lined on both sides by small houses, probably thirty in number, occupied by from one to three families each. On each side of Main street were stores and more pretentious dwellings, all standing thickly together, there being no cross streets to divide them. When the fire broke out there was a strong southerly wind blowing, and the flames spread rapidly from building to building and were quickly beyond control. The wind, fortunately, kept shifting, finally falling to a flat calm, enabling the citizens to extinguish the fire, Mr. Karns's residence making the limit of its ravages on the north side, and the Wallace House on the south. The area burned over is about three acres, and the number of buildings destroyed, packed compactly together as they were, is not far from eighty.

The following is a list of those burned on the west side of Main street: Wallace House, John Ganophey proprietor; P. Galey's office; W. A. Gilbert's residence; Leaman's boot and shoe store; Briscoe's dry store; Tate's grocery store; McMann's saloon; Oil Exchange; John Lipp's residence; Quail's hardware store; Worthing Bros.'s livery stable, and half a dozen small buildings adjoining; *Transcript* office; Odd Fellow's Hall; the barber shop of Captain Smith's Hotel; Chalfant & Waff's hardware store, also a number of offices over the store; a clothing and tobacco store; M. McConnell, Jr.'s office; Edward Dolan's Opera House saloon; Steele's livery stable; the Kittanning saloon; Robinson store; M. McConnell, Jr.'s grocery; Hagerman's bakery; McLaughlin's dwelling; Diselman's tailor shop; W. A. Levan's grocery; Michael Deering's restaurant; Trube's livery stable; Joseph Burgnam's bakery; McLaughlin's dwelling; Diselman's tailor shop; W. A. Levan's grocery; Michael Deering's restaurant; Trube's livery stable; Joseph Burgnam's bakery; McLaughlin's dwelling; Dan. Sweeney & Co.'s feed store and dwelling; Brown's lumber yard; Officer Levan's dwelling, and Thos. Stevenson's dwelling and butcher shop, and John McLaughlin's.

On the east side the following buildings were burned: Jackson's saloon, a dwelling house; a livery stable; the Greeley House, Morris Spatz proprietor; an unoccupied building; Justice Fullerton and J. C. Collin's offices; George Landon's saloon; I. F. Brown's lumber office; J. Levan's dwelling and Thos. Stevenson's dwelling and meat market.

As nearly as can be ascertained the losses will foot up over $120,000, of which sum Chalfant & Graff lose $30,000, the Wallace House $6,000, E. F. Bennett $5,000, Dr. Galey about $8,000, J. A. Steel $8,000, Spencer Opera House $6,000, Ed. Dolan $4,000 and W. R. Daly $4,500.

These give the greatest individual losses, but on Main, and although the other buildings destroyed were numerous, they were of the kind peculiar to old towns, and the loss will come chiefly within the estimate. The total insurance may possibly reach $40,000, mostly written in small policies and widely distributed.

Aside from a fire engine, which proved worthless on the first trial, there were no appliances for extinguishing the fire, and had not the wind favored, the entire town would have been burned.

A few people, whose business demands all accommodations, commenced rebuilding today, but it is not likely that any considerable portion of the burned section will again be occupied. It is estimated that over one hundred families were made homeless, but all were cared for by the people of Lawrenceburg and the upper part of the town, and they will suffer no very serious inconvenience.

NEWS SUMMARY

BY TELEGRAPH.

The small-pox epidemic is creating grave apprehensions in Boston and vicinity. Three thousand cases in the new year are reported in the city, and the percentage of deaths is much larger than by all other causes combined. Nearly all the burials are made at night. The vaccine has had a very serious effect upon the city generally.

A Havana letter states that a cargo of seven hundred coolies arrived there on the ship ——. They command six hundred dollars per head.

At a fire in St. Paul street, Montreal, Saturday night, property to the amount of $35,000 was destroyed. Insurance, $20,000.

A Harrisburg dispatch says the ice has nearly all gone out of the Susquehanna at that point, and the river had fallen two feet. The ice gorge continues near Williamsport.

A ballot yesterday in the Louisiana Legislature was unsuccessful.

In the Kellogg Legislature of Louisiana, Senator Jenks, Swords and Morrall, who withdrew from their seats on the 10th inst. and went to the Fusionists, returned yesterday. Similar resolutions in the House to expel nine members for the same cause was postponed until Monday.

Major Edward A. Berchen, one of the most talented members of the Memphis bar, died yesterday morning of pneumonia.

The Iowa and Minnesota division of the Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad has been cleared of the immense snow drifts and trains are now running on time. The roads in Wisconsin are also clear.

A strong effort is being made to have all the tax exemption laws of Wisconsin repealed as the only cure of its abuse. Long petitions have been sent to the Legislature from various parts of the State looking to this end, and the trustees of the Immanuel Presbyterian church, the largest Protestant society of thirty, have sent a petition to the Legislature to have their property taxed.

The people of Port Deposit, Md., abandoned their houses yesterday in consequence of the freshet in the Susquehanna. Many were removed in boats, and it was feared some lives were lost.

Ernest Nelke, charged with robbing the mails in Germany, and arrested in New York, has confessed his guilt and was committed for extradition.

It appears that cerebro spinal meningitis is no more prevalent among the horses in New York city than is usual at this season of the year.

The bail of the New York fire bug, Kidd, has been increased to $10,000. He has been committed to await the action of the Grand Jury.

The ice gorge in the Schuylkill, at Philadelphia, continues, and the water is flooding all the lower portions of the city, the mouth of Mannsyunk. It is feared that when the ice breaks away it will injure the dam at Fairmount, and cut off a portion of the water supply of the city.

The anniversary of General R. E. Lee's birth was celebrated at Savannah, Georgia, yesterday, with grand eclat. The first military parade since the war took place. General Wade Hampton delivered an address.

Mrs. Mary A. Walker, widow of the late Robert J. Walker, died at Washington City, yesterday. She was the grandmother of Benjamin Franklin.

It is probable that a number of additional Ku-Klux pardons will shortly be issued.

The proposal of Phelps, Dodge & Co., of New York, to pay the government $260,000 in lieu of alleged duties unpaid, officials of the Treasury Department say is not likely to be accepted.

A fire at Oskaloosa, Iowa, Sunday night, destroyed a large portion of the business part of the town, including Masonic Hall and Dixon's block, two of the finest buildings in the town. Total loss estimated at $45,000.

A Des Moines, Iowa, dispatch says that the Committee of Investigation into State Treasurer Rankin's defalcation met yesterday. Rankin appeared and asked for delay until to-day to secure counsel, and the request was granted.

A fire broke out in Ottumwa, Iowa, Sunday afternoon and destroyed property to the value of $150,000, which is fully covered by insurance. During the fire Henry Miller, a fireman, was killed and several others injured.

The Milwaukee county court house was completed to-day. It is a beautiful structure and built of Lake Superior sandstone. The formal opening takes place Wednesday next.

It is said that Phelps, Dodge & Co., have determined to sue the New York *Sun* for libel in stating that they were guilty of deliberate fraud.

Jane Meeit, a colored woman, during a fit of insanity at Little Rock, yesterday, fell in the fire and was burned to death.

Henry Smith killed Jackson Pike with a knife at a negro dance twelve miles below Little Rock, Ark., on Saturday night, both colored. The murderer escaped.

The lower House of the Missouri Legislature adopted a resolution to make the Senatorial bribery case public through the press.

Ex-Governor Warmouth, of Louisiana, arrived in St. Louis yesterday, and left for Washington.

The horse epizooty is rapidly spreading in Salt Lake, Utah Territory.

The steamship Moselle, from Bremen, arrived at New York yesterday.

EUROPE.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

Funeral Sermon of the Late Ex-Emperor Napoleon.

LONDON, January 20.—There was a large number of visitors at Chiselhurst yesterday to hear preached the funeral sermon of the late Napoleon. Queen Victoria and Princess Beatrice sent flowers to be placed on the tomb. The Prince Imperial is soon to return to school at Woolwich.

The Lease of Samana Bay.

LONDON, January 20.—The *Daily News* says of the lease of Samana Bay to an American Company, that "it is not likely to give rise to any diplomatic complication, but the wholesomeness of this tendency to acquire territory beyond continental limits is doubtful. The United States present the spectacle of communities maintaining liberty and order by the exercise of absolute self-government. Therefore the Union is strong and respected."

The Objectionable French Play.

PARIS, January 20.—The play to which the attention of the Military Governor was called by the Censors is L'Oncle Sam, by M. Sardou. Mr. Washburne, American Minister, disavows any action or intention on his part to interfere with the production of the play on the stage.

The French Germans have been commissioned to have brought their bones for interment.

Members of Parliament Fined.

LONDON, January 20.—Messrs. Onslow and Whalley, members of Parliament, have been fined one hundred pounds each for publicly accusing Sir John Duke of Coleridge, of conspiring to deprive the Tichborne claimant of his rights.

Frauds on Italian Emigrants.

ROME, January 20.—In the Chamber of Deputies to-day Signor Pissavina asked that measures be taken to prevent the cruel frauds practiced upon emigrants by American Emigration Companies. Minister Visconti replied that the government had had its attention called to the deplorable occurrences which the honorable Deputy sought to prevent, and had measures under contemplation which it hoped would put a stop to them.

A plenipotentiary from Uruguay is expected here to settle the long standing financial dispute between Italy and that country.

Educational Question in the French Assembly.

PARIS, January 20.—In the Assembly this afternoon, the Right introduced a resolution censuring M. Jules Simon, Minister of Public Instruction, for his circular of last autumn on school reform. Bishop Dupanloup and M. Johnson also spoke. M. Cumbon's hardware were replied with an eloquent defence of his opinions on education. A question of order was raised on the priority of the motion made some time ago by the Clericals, but which approves the circular in question. The latter motion was declared in order by a vote of 353 against 310. The question was then put upon the motion itself, but all the members of the Right abstained from voting, and the vote was declared void for want of a majority. The sitting was soon afterwards adjourned.

M. Christophles' motion will come up for a fresh vote to-morrow.

Meeting of the Swedish Diet.

STOCKHOLM, January 20.—The usual session of the Swedish Diet was opened to-day by the King in person, who, in his speech from the throne, expressed a hope for the future development of Scandinavian union.

Miscellaneous Dispatches.

LONDON, January 20.—Baptiste Wriothesley Noel, a well known English theologian, is dead.

Marine News.

LONDON, January 20.—The steamships Malta, Parthia, Baltic, Nevada and Hammonia have arrived out.

European Markets.

LONDON, January 20, 5 P. M.—The Russian question continues to affect fashionable securities but money 92a92¼, and for account 92⅝. American securities—5-20s of '65, 93¾; do of '67, 92¾; 10-40s, 89¾; new 5s, 90¼; old bonds, 92¾. Turkish 6s, 57. Refined petroleum 21¾a22d. Linseed oil £33 10s. Tallow 46s.

PARIS, January 20.—Rentes 5f. francs 25 centimes.

LIVERPOOL, January 20.—Cotton irregular; middling uplands 9½; Orleans 9½; sales 10,000 bales; of American 4,000 bales; speculation and export 1,000 bales. Breadstuffs quiet. Red winter wheat 12s 2¾a12s 3d. Flour 29s 6¼a30s. Corn 28s. Mess pork 62s 6d. Cheese 95s. Lard 38s. Cumberland middles short 40s middles long 39½. Tallow 44s. Turpentine 46s.

ANTWERP, January 20.—Refined petroleum 47¾ francs.

RAILWAY MATTERS.

Adverse Vote on Extending Aid to Ohio Valley Road.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

IRONTON, O., January 20, 1873.

The election on the 18th instant in Perry township, Lawrence county, Ohio, resulted in the defeat of the tax for the Ohio Valley Railroad.

Trestle Work on the Oil Creek and Allegheny Road Restored.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

HICKORY, PA., January 20, 1873.

The trestle work on the Oil Creek and Allegheny River Railway, at this place, noted as having been carried away, has been rebuilt, the slide at Rockwood cleared away, and trains are now running through on time.

Toledo, Wabash and Western Directors Authorize the Issue of $5,000,000 in Bonds.

NEW YORK, January 20.—The directors of the Toledo, Wabash and Western Railroad today authorized the issue of five million dollars worth of mortgage bonds, secured on 500 miles of road.

Consolidation of Eastern Companies.

NEW YORK, January 20.—The New York, Boston and Northern Railroad Company and the Harlem Extension Company voted to-day to consolidate the New York, Boston and Montreal Railroad. George H. Brownell was chosen President, John Q. Hoyt, Vice President, and Alexander Mitchell, Treasurer.

Railroad Ordinances Passed.

WHEELING, W. VA., January 20.—The Council of this city, after a protracted session which lasted till half-past one this morning, passed the ordinances granting rights-of-way to the Wheeling and Lake Erie Railroad Company and $500,000 to the bridge.

Advices from Porto Rico to the 12th instant states that the inauguration of the new municipal reform laws for that island had been postponed by the Spanish authorities at Madrid. It was reported that the government would also postpone the date for carrying into effect the provisional division of the civil and military power, and that the militarv authorities would continue to control the civil affairs the same as heretofore.

The Philosopher's Stone.

Nieburh says the tomb of the prophet in Medina is between two other tombs where repose the remains of the first Caliphs, covered by a building draped within with silk and gold embroidered stuffs which are renewed annually by the Pasha of Damascus. The edifice is always guarded by forty eunuchs, more for the treasures deposited there than the holy ashes of Mahomet. He was assured by an intelligent Arab gentleman that besides a large quantity of powder for converting base metals into gold and silver, the sacred structure is the most valuable of all the riches on deposit was the Philosopher's Stone.

It is gratifying to know precisely where that precious thing may be found, having been sought for in vain by so many believers in its potency, even in those latter days, as have been patiently digging for Captain Kidd's buried chests of money.

THE Yorkshire, England, *Extra Post* reports an inquest at Churwell, near Leeds, on the body of a man named Mitchell, who lost his life in a most horrible manner one Saturday night. While in a state of intoxication he tried to get into a hut or house by making his way down the chimney. A fire was burning below, and he suffocated before he could reach the aperture, and was thus burned to death. Hardly anything but the skeleton remained when the body was found on Sunday morning.

DAILY REPORT

OF THE STAGE OF WATER, WITH CHANGES IN THE 2 HOURS, ENDING 5 P. M., JANUARY 20, 1873.

	Above Low Water.		Changes. Rise.		Fall.	
	Ft.	In.	Ft.	In.	Ft.	In.
St. Paul	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fort Benton	0	0	0	0	0	0
Omaha	0	0	0	0	0	0
Davenport	5	1	0	0	0	0
Leavenworth	0	0	0	0	0	0
Keokuk	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cairo	19	2	0	0	0	0
St. Louis	10	4	0	0	0	0
Pittsburgh	11	3	0	0	2	1
Cincinnati	25	11	0	0	7	0
Louisville	7	10	0	0	0	0
Memphis	12	4	0	0	0	0
Vicksburg	17	6	0	0	0	0
Shreveport	8	0	0	0	0	0
Ashville	15	2	0	2	0	0
New Orleans	12	6	0	0	0	0

*Below high water mark.

W. E. SMITH,
Observer Sig. Ser. U. S. Army.

ADDITIONAL RIVER DISPATCHES.

Cincinnati.

CINCINNATI, O., January 20.—River twenty seven feet and rising rapidly. Twelve low boats with coal arrived from Pittsburgh to-day. Weather cloudy and threatening rain. Thermometer 40 at 7 this evening.

Nashville.

NASHVILLE, January 20.—River rising with six and a half feet on the Shoals. Weather mild and cloudy. Arrived—John Lumsden, Cairo.

Cairo.

CAIRO, ILL., January 20.—Arrived—J. D. Parker, Cincinnati. No departures. The Columbus packet has begun make trips yesterday and to-day, and on to the big make trips yesterday and to-day, and on to the big make trips yesterday and to-day, and on to the big